

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 01698 110035Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----062796 110042Z /61

P 102046Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8437

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 1698

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

FOR ARA D AND L ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN SHUM PGOV CI
SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT CASE: LEGAL ACTIONS

1. SPECIAL INVESTIGATING JUDGE LIBEDINSKY ARRIVED UN-
ANNOUNCED AT THE CONSULATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 9,
AND ASKED FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE 1976 NOTE FROM THE
FOREIGN OFFICE REQUESTING OFFICIAL VISAS FOR "WILLIAMS"
AND "ROMERAL." THE CONSUL, AFTER CHECKING WITH THE DCM
WHO IN TURN TALKED TO CHILEAN COUNSEL, ALFREDO ETCHEBERRY,
GAVE HIM A COPY OF THE NOTE AND ALSO A COPY OF THE UNSIGNED
VISA APPLICATIONS (FS-257) THAT HAD BEEN SENT FROM THE
FOREIGN OFFICE WITH THE NOTE.

2. LIBEDINSKY TOLD THE CONSUL THAT IF WE HAD ANY OTHER
LEADS FOR HIM TO FOLLOW-UP WE SHOULD LET HIM KNOW. THE
CONSUL REMARKED ON NEWS STORIES THAT THE NUMBERS OF THE
PASSPORTS ISSUED TO "WILLIAMS" AND "ROMERAL" ARE SHOWN
AGAINST OTHER NAMES IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND OFFERED TO
CHECK OUR FILES FOR THOSE TWO NAMES IF LIBEDINSKY THOUGHT
IT WOULD BE USEFUL. THE CONSUL ASKED LIBEDINSKY IF HE
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HAD ANY PLANS TO CALL TOWNLEY TO TESTIFY; LIBEDINSKY
REPLIED "NOT AT THIS TIME."

3. AS REPORTED SEPTEL, EMBASSY DELIVERED A NOTE TO
FOREIGN OFFICE THIS MORNING (MARCH 10) NAMING ALFREDO
ETCHEBERRY AS THE USG'S LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE ON MATTERS
INVOLVING THE LETELIER/MOFFITT INVESTIGATION. WE EXPECT

THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO FORWARD A COPY OF THE NOTE TO THE SUPREME COURT TODAY. ETCHEBERRY HAS INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE MADE A VERY DISCREET DEMARCHE AT THE SUPREME COURT THIS MORNING WITH THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING ANY PRECIPITATE FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT EXCLUDING PROPPER FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE QUESTIONING OF "WILLIAMS" AND "ROMERAL." WHEN WE DISCUSSED THIS MATTER UITH ETCHEBERRY YESTERDAY, HE WAS NOT AS SURE AS THE JURISTS WHO HAVE SPOKEN PUBLICLY THAT SUCH PARTICIPATION WOULD BE EXCLUDED UNDER CHILEAN LAW. ETCHEBERRY DESCRIBED HIS EFFORT OF THIS MORNING AS SUCCESSFUL.

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